UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/577,974	05/30/2007	Barbara Ensoli	50318/012001	3028
21559 CLARK & ELI	7590 02/01/2010		EXAMINER	
101 FEDERAL	STREET	•	KINSEY WHITE, NICOLE ERIN	
BOSTON, MA 02110		•	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1648 ,	
		•		
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
		al de servicios de la compansión de la c	02/01/2010	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentadministrator@clarkelbing.com

## PATENT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 50318/012001

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Barbara Ensoli et al.

Confirmation No.:

3028

Serial No.:

10/577,974

Art Unit:

1648

Filed:

May 30, 2007

Examiner:

Nicole Erin Kinsey White

Customer No.:

21559

Title:

Use of Microparticles for Antigen Delivery

Mail Stop Petitions
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## PETITION TO WITHDRAW FINALITY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181

Applicants request withdrawal of finality of the Office action issued in connection with the above-referenced case on April 16, 2009.

Under M.P.E.P. § 706.07(a), a "second or any subsequent actions on the merits shall be final, except where the examiner introduces a new ground of rejection that is neither necessitated by applicant's amendment of the claims, nor based on information submitted in an information disclosure statement filed during the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.97(c) with the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p)" and "[a] second or any subsequent action on the merits in any application or patent involved in reexamination proceedings should not be made final if it includes a rejection, on prior art not of record, of any claim amended to include limitations which should reasonably have been expected to be claimed."

The facts of this case are as follows. On April 16, 2009, a final Office action was issued rejecting claims 1-9 and 11 for obviousness and provisionally rejecting claims 1-9 and 11 for obviousness-type double patenting. Applicants filed a reply on August 17, 2009, which included arguments against the Examiner's prima facie case of obviousness, legal arguments in support of previously presented evidence of non-obviousness, and an amendment of claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 9. In an Advisory action dated October 2, 2009, the Examiner indicted that Applicants' amendment had been entered and cited, for the first time, U.S. Patent No. 6,753,015 in connection with the outstanding obviousness rejection (see page 5, last full paragraph of the Advisory action). This reference was not previously cited by either the

Applicants or the Examiner, and no Form PTO 892 including this reference was provided with the Advisory action.

Because U.S. Patent No. 6,753,015 was first cited in an Advisory action, Applicants are procedurally restricted in their ability submit arguments and evidence in support of the patentability of the claims with respect to this reference. Applicants are entitled to full consideration of such arguments and evidence submitted in response to a non-final Office action, as well as a further opportunity to present additional arguments and evidence to prepare the case for appeal, if necessary.

The new citation of U.S. Patent No. 6,753,015 was not necessitated by a claim amendment or an Information Disclosure Statement file by the Applicants. Therefore, in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 706.7(a), the finality of the prior Office action should be withdrawn and a new, non-final Office action should be issued.

For these reasons, Applicants request withdrawal of finality. If there are any charges or any credits, kindly apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 0 2 2002

Susan M. Michaud, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 42,885

Clark & Elbing LLP 101 Federal Street Boston, MA 02110

Telephone: 617-428-0200

Facsimile: 617-428-7045